

THE BENZIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
October 13, 2015

The Benzie County Board of Commissioners met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, October 13, 2015, 448 Court Place, Government Center, Beulah, Michigan.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Vance Bates at 9:00 a.m.

Present were: Commissioners Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke
Absent: None

The invocation was given by Commissioner Griner followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Agenda:

Motion by Tucker, seconded by Walterhouse, to approve the agenda as presented. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Minutes:

Motion by Sauer, seconded by Tucker, to approve the regular session minutes of September 22, 2015, as correcting, changing start time to 4:00 p.m. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Motion by Walterhouse, seconded by Carland, to approve the special session minutes of September 29, 2015 as presented. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Motion by Griner, seconded by Tucker, to approve the special session minutes of October 5, 2015 as presented. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

9:02 a.m. Public Input – None

ELECTED OFFICIALS & DEPT HEAD COMMENTS:

Craig Johnson, EMS, reported that they had a record setting September with 188 runs; October number are up as well; he received a letter from the wife of a patient who is pleased with the care her husband received and therefore she has donated \$200 for the EMS staff to have a pizza party.

Ron Berns, 911 Central Dispatch, stated that they are testing the new site repeater in Frankfort and it seems to be going good; on October 22 some of his staff will be recognized in Frankenmuth for their efforts on August 2 during the storm – handling calls for other counties (Leelanau, Grand Traverse and Kalkaska) when they did not have service.

Bert Gale, Building Dept., provided the board with the September 2015 report.

Marlene Wood, Recycling Coordinator, stated that they held their quarterly SWAC meeting last week and she will provide those reports to you; she will be starting back up with the DNR to visit illegal dump sites; Requests approval to apply the DEQ scrap tire grant again this year, with the application due October 30; improvements are being made at some of the recycling sites – looks nice.

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Motion by Walterhouse, seconded by Sauer, to authorize application for the scrap tire grant through the DEQ as requested, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Jaime Croel, Animal Control, reported that she does not have the September report yet; she is requesting to apply to the Animal Welfare Fund for up to \$10,000 with a November 2 deadline; she will be heading to Battle Creek on Sunday for the MACO Conference with four Animal Welfare League members; her equestrian team did well and will head to State competition on Thursday.

Motion by Tucker, seconded by Griner, to authorize application to the Animal Welfare Fund for spay and neuter costs and hoarding court cases, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Frank Post, Emergency Management, stated that he has four items:

- September activity report.
- Hazardous Materials Grant: Motion by Walterhouse, seconded by Carland, to authorize the Benzie County Office of Emergency Management to apply for the maximum of \$1,000 for the Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Grant, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.
- Property Acquisition: Motion by Bates, seconded by Walterhouse, to authorize the Benzie County Office of Emergency Management to submit a grant application for \$128,035 to the Federal Emergency Management Agency for the Acquisition, Demolition, and Restoration of the property located at 4696 Frankfort Highway in Crystal Lake Township, Benzie County, Michigan. Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker and Walterhouse Nays: Warsecke Motion carried.
- Statement of Assurances: Motion by Bates, seconded by Griner, to authorize the Emergency Management Coordinator to sign the "Statement of Assurances" and submit the same with the application to FEMA as a required part of the application. Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker and Walterhouse Nays: Warsecke Motion carried.

Frank also stated that there will be Sky Warning training tomorrow evening at 7:30 p.m. here in the commissioners' room; CERT award – he stated that Dave Hanchette has been named the Volunteer of the Year by the Michigan Emergency Management Association for the entire State of Michigan.

9:33 a.m. Break

9:39 a.m. Reconvene

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Comm Carland stated that he was in Detroit last week earning his Citizen Planner certificate – he was the only elected person at the conference – everyone else was appointed; he will ask the Planning Commission to send someone to that conference every year as funds permit. He attended Networks Northwest last evening and they had discussion regarding what school kids and how do we get them on a career track where they can actually earn money – ~~want to do~~ what do you want to do, what are you interested in.

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Comm Tucker reported that she has been researching the 24-hour on-call service and reached out to Victor with Wyant and asked him to come in today. Victor stated that there is a 4-hour window for on-call time to response and a 24-hour telephone support on-site/remote support; 24/7 – 5 days per week. He stated he had the ability to respond and did – the county chose not to pay for the 7 day per week coverage due to cost.

Comm Walterhouse had nothing to report.

Comm Griner reported that he has been attached balance training with Area Agency on Aging and state that we have that service here too through Council on Aging. Tourism is still strong in the City of Frankfort. Next Monday he will tour the Mecosta County morgue with John Amrhein; Thursday he will go to Lansing for the MAC Transportation meeting.

Comm Warsecke stated that he attended a special meeting of the Road Commission in Colfax Township last night regarding the Nostwick Road Bridge; also attended the SWAC meeting.

Comm Sauer stated that there is a Veterans Memorial display at the Treasurer's office; October 30 will be the Summit from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. for \$20.00 and includes lunch; the Road Commission will start working on the culverts on Lindy Road later this month; December 8 the new services at the Health Dept will begin.

Comm Bates stated that the EMT class in Lake Ann has begun and will run through March; he has attended the Lake Township meet; Almira Township is doing GIS on the park; he attended Art Prize in Grand Rapids and says Congratulations to Steve and Ann Loveless for winning.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT - Karl Sparks

- The letter from Mr. Roy regarding the Maples -- information.
- County statistics report for August 2015.
- County Administrator's 2-year report of policies which have been either created or updated and items that are still being worked on.
- Strategic Plan – he updates the board of where we are with that.
- Web Site – up and running.

FINANCE

Motion by Walterhouse, seconded by Tucker, to approve payment of the bills from September 23 through October 13, 2015 in the amount of \$1,774,812.38 as presented. Roll Call Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Michelle Thompson, County Treasurer stated that the 2015 delinquent village taxes are now being collected in her office; she is working on year-end; they are talking about transitioning to a 3-year dog license; the Land Bank continues to work on their projects – there has been interest in the gas station and question mark properties in Honor.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Planning Commission – will be rescheduled to the next meeting.

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Board of Canvassers: Motion by Bates, seconded by Griner, to appoint Jan Mick, Republican, and William Ward, Democrat, to the Board of Canvassers for a term ending November 1, 2019. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

10:31 a.m. Break

10:41 a.m. Reconvene

HR AND PERSONNEL

HR Consent Calendar 10/8/2015

Comm Warsecke removes items 1 and 2.

Motion by Tucker, seconded by Sauer, to adopt HR Consent Calendar item 3 from October 8, 2015 as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

#1: Motion by Bates, seconded by Tucker, to opt out of the Cohl contract with 90-day notice and set the County Administrator's salary at \$70,000 with funds to be allocated from the Cohl Stoker retainer.

Comm Warsecke feels that we need a labor attorney, the Prosecuting Attorney said so, and it is not a wise move to not have one.

Comm Sauer talks about the amounts that have been paid under the Cohl contract – we are not terminating them, just going to an hourly rate.

Comm Warsecke questions a possible conflict with a commissioner on the board.

Karl says this is not a conflict, we are dealing with a contract; the attorney does not make our decision, we will make that; the attorney may recommend, but not decide.

Comm Griner stated that people in the community don't think we should get out of the Cohl contract.

Comm Bates says he is not comfortable with explaining to the public why we are spending so much money on corporate counsel.

Comm Warsecke asks that the Sheriff be allowed to speak – denied.

Comm Tucker calls for the question.

Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Sauer and Tucker Nays: Carland, Griner, Walterhouse and Warsecke Motion denied.

#2: County Administrator says this is not in the budget so you need to decide how to pay for it.

Chairman Bates sends it back to finance for a decision before the next meeting October 27, 2015.

Chairman Bates also sends the conflict of interest issue to Mr. Figura for a response.

ACTION ITEMS

Copier Maintenance Agreements (12): Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Walterhouse, to approve the copier maintenance agreements with Netlink as presented, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Union Contract Amendments: Motion by Sauer, seconded by Carland, to authorize contract amendments with POLC, POAM Communications, POAM Deputies and TPOAM unions as presented, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Griner, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: Tucker Motion carried.

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MDOC & Sheriff Dept Tether Agreement: Motion by Walterhouse, seconded by Warsecke, to approve the Agreement between the State of Michigan, Department of Corrections and Benzie County and Benzie County Sheriff's Office for the tether program, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Joyfield Twp Letter re Code Enforcement: Motion by Bates, seconded by Sauer, to authorize letter to Joyfield Township regarding Code Enforcement, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Joyfield Twp Letter re EDC Action Plan: Motion by Bates, seconded by Carland, to authorize letter to Joyfield Township regarding EDC Action Plan, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Dispatch Advisory Bylaws: Motion by Walterhouse, seconded by Tucker, to approve the Benzie County Central Dispatch Advisory Board Bylaws as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Hurst Mechanical: Motion by Walterhouse, seconded by Griner, to enter into agreement with Hurst Mechanical for preventive Maintenance at the Government Center and FIA, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Commission on Aging/Benzie Home Health Care: Motion by Griner, seconded by Warsecke, to enter into contract between the Benzie County Commission on Aging and Benzie Home Health Care for the period 10/1/2015 – 9/30/2016 as presented, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Point Betsie Easement: Motion by Walterhouse, seconded by Tucker to approve the Preservation Easement/Covenant for a Save America's Treasures Grant to a Historic Subject Property (Point Betsie Light Station), authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Veterans Affairs minutes of August 3 and September 14, 2015 received.
- Email received regarding the Benzie Housing Committee – referred to Mitch Deitsch, County Administrator.
- Road Commission minutes of September 10 and 24, 2015 received.
- Veterans Kick Off notice.
- Benzie Leelanau Health Dept minutes of September 24, 2015 received.
- Little Platte Lake and Crystal Lake Elevation reports for September 2015 received.
- Parks & Recreation minutes of August 24, 2015 received.
- Goodwill information.

NEW BUSINESS – None

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11:28 a.m. Public Input – None

Motion by Carland, seconded by Warsecke, to adjourn until October 27, 2015 regular meeting at 6:00 p.m. at Almira Township or the call of the chair. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried

K. Vance Bates – Chair

Dawn Olney – Benzie County Clerk

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1. Approved the agenda as presented.
2. Approved the regular session minutes of September 22, 2015, as corrected.
3. Approved the special session minutes of September 29, 2015 as presented.
4. Approved the special session minutes of October 5, 2015 as presented.
5. Authorized application for the scrap tire grant through the DEQ as requested, authorizing the chairman to sign.
6. Authorized application to the Animal Welfare Fund for spay and neuter costs and hoarding court cases, authorizing the chairman to sign.
7. Authorized the Benzie County Office of Emergency Management to apply for the maximum of \$1,000 for the Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Grant, authorizing the chairman to sign.
8. Authorized the Benzie County Office of Emergency Management to submit a grant application for \$128,035 to the Federal Emergency Management Agency for the Acquisition, Demolition, and Restoration of the property located at 4696 Frankfort Highway in Crystal Lake Township, Benzie County, Michigan.
9. Authorized the Emergency Management Coordinator to sign the “Statement of Assurances” and submit the same with the application to FEMA as a required part of the application.
10. Approved payment of the bills from September 23 through October 13, 2015 in the amount of \$1,774,812.38 as presented.
11. Appointed Jan Mick, Republican, and William Ward, Democrat, to the Board of Canvassers for a term ending November 1, 2019.
12. Adopted HR Consent Calendar item 3 from October 8, 2015 as presented.
13. Denied motion to opt out of the Cohl contract with 90-day notice and set the County Administrator’s salary at \$70,000 with funds to be allocated from the Cohl Stoker retainer.
14. Approved the copier maintenance agreements (12) with Netlink as presented, authorizing the chairman to sign.
15. Authorized contract amendments with POLC, POAM Communications, POAM Deputies and TPOAM unions as presented, authorizing the chairman to sign.
16. Approved the Agreement between the State of Michigan, Department of Corrections and Benzie County and Benzie County Sheriff’s Office for the tether program, authorizing the chairman to sign.

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17. Authorized letter to Joyfield Township regarding Code Enforcement, authorizing the chairman to sign.
18. Authorized letter to Joyfield Township regarding EDC Action Plan, authorizing the chairman to sign.
19. Approved the Benzie County Central Dispatch Advisory Board Bylaws as presented.
20. Approved to enter into agreement with Hurst Mechanical for preventive Maintenance at the Government Center and FIA, authorizing the chairman to sign.
21. Approved to enter into contract between the Benzie County Commission on Aging and Benzie Home Health Care for the period 10/1/2015 – 9/30/2016 as presented, authorizing the chairman to sign.
22. Approved the Preservation Easement/Covenant for a Save America's Treasurers Grant to a Historic Subject Property (Point Betsie Light Station), authorizing the chairman to sign.

HR COMMITTEE

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October 8, 2015

Motion by Tucker, seconded by Sauer, to recommend approval of the HR Consent Calendar as follows:

1. Removed from Consent Calendar.
2. Removed from Consent Calendar.
3. To offer contract with Mitch Diesch with changes and additions as follows: change date to October 19, 2015 – September 30, 2017; Performance Evaluation – use Peter Cohl’s verbiages for 6 month and 12 month review, then each 12 months thereafter; Severance Evaluation – leave as is; page 4 item 12 add word documented; compensation \$70,000, with the final copy to come to the full Board of Commissioners.